Application No.: 09/843,199 Office Action Dated: 12/30/04

REMARKS

Status Of The Application

Claims 1 through 52 are pending in the application.

Claims 1 through 52 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,870,611 (London Shrader et al.).

Applicants' undersigned representative respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejections in view of the following remarks.

The Claimed Systems and Methods

Applicants have noted that "data objects occupy space in a computer memory, even when there is no immediate need for a computer system to retrieve them from the memory." (Application, page 2, Il. 1-5). These data objects occupy memory space that could be used by new data objects. Therefore "[i]t is desirable for the computer system employing the memory to remove from the memory data that is not presently being used, in order to make room for new data." (Id., page 2, Il. 5-9). Accordingly, Applicants have provided "an application manager for controlling various operations related to the installation of data objects." (Id., page 4, Il. 1-13). "[P]rior to executing one of the installation operations, a data object must notify the application manager of the impending operation. Furthermore, after completing the installation operation, the application finalizes the operation by committing it with the application manager." (Id., page 4, Il. 25-page 5, Il. 1-5).

For example, a data object that requests to be installed may provide the application manager with certain information about itself including the estimated size of the files to be installed (Id., page 5, Il. 14-18). If the application manager determines that there is not enough space to load the files it may conduct a downsize operation on one of the previously installed data objects (Id., page 5, Il. 20-24). Thereafter, the data object that has requested to be installed will be provided, upon request, a location to save the files (Id., page 5, Il. 24-25). When the data object completes the installation it notifies the application manager that the operation is complete (Id., page 6, Il. 1-3).

In accord with the application disclosure, claim 1 is directed to a method of communicating with an application comprising:

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receiving from the application a call to set a property related to performing an application installation operation;

receiving from the application a call to initialize the application installation operation; and

receiving from the application a call to finalize the application installation operation.

Similarly, claim 11 is directed to a method of communicating with an application, comprising:

receiving from the application a call to set a property related to performing an application install operation;

receiving from the application a call to initialize the application install operation; and

receiving from the application a call to finalize the application install operation.

Claim 27 is directed to a method for communicating with an application, comprising:

receiving from the application a call to set a property related to performing an application uninstall operation;

receiving from the application a call to initialize the application uninstall operation; and

receiving from the application a call to finalize the application uninstall operation.

Claim 35 is directed to a method for communicating with an application, comprising:

receiving from the application a call to set a property related to performing an application downsize operation;

receiving from the application a call to initialize the application downsize operation; and

receiving from the application a call to finalize the application downsize operation.

Claim 43 is directed to a method for communicating with an application, comprising:

receiving from the application a call to set a property related to performing an application reinstall operation;

receiving from the application a call to initialize the application reinstall operation; and

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receiving from the application a call to finalize the application reinstall operation.

Claim 52 is directed to a system for managing application installation operations, comprising:

a computing device operable to read programmed instructions; and

programmed instructions for performing a method of communicating with an application, comprising:

receiving from the application a call to set a property related to performing an application installation operation;

receiving from the application a call to initialize an application installation operation; and

receiving from the application a call to finalize the application installation operation.

In order for a reference to anticipate the above-listed claims, the reference must disclose each of the claimed features including those emphasized. In particular, an anticipating reference must teach receiving from the application a call to set a property related to performing an application installation operation, receiving from the application a call to initialize the application installation operation, and receiving from the application a call to finalize the application installation operation. Applicant's undersigned representative respectfully submits that the cited reference does not teach these features.

The Prior Art Does Not Anticipate Or Render The Claims Obvious

London Shrader et al. discloses systems and methods for defining and constructing a proposed plan object for installing software across a network (London Shrader et al., col. 1, ll. 18-22). The invention reduces the network installation planning process into a series of discrete objects and provides an object oriented, graphical means by which administrators can set-up and view applications that are selected to be installed on a set of workstations across the LAN (Id., col. 2, ll. 7-13). The administrator can then use the object oriented representation to generate the files needed for the actual physical installation (Id., col. 2, ll.

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13-15). The system provides administrators with a high level view of the network installation plan, shielding them from the physical implementation and leaving them to concentrate on the building blocks for the plan (Id., col. 2, ll. 15-19).

The office action alleges that London Shrader et al. teaches receiving from the application a call to set a property related to performing an application installation operation at column 7, lines 28 through 30. (Office Action, page 2). To the contrary, the cited portion of London Shrader et al. merely discloses attributes used to denote the type of processing to use for an application (London Shrader et al., col. 7, ll. 28-30). There is no mention of receiving a call anywhere in the cited portion. London Shrader et al. simply does not disclose receiving from the application a call to set a property related to performing an application installation operation.

Similarly, the office action alleges that London Shrader et al. teaches receiving from the application a call to initialize an application installation operation at column 5, lines 53-54 (Office Action, page 3). To the contrary, the cited portion of London Shrader et al. merely discloses a LAN CID utility procedure that keeps track of the current state of the installation (London Shrader et al., col. 5, ll. 53-54). There is no mention of receiving a call to initialize an application anywhere in the cited portion. London Shrader et al. simply does not disclose receiving from the application a call to initialize an application installation operation.

Furthermore, the office action alleges that London Shrader et al. teaches receiving from the application a call to finalize the application installation operation at column 5, lines 53-54 (Office Action, page 3). As described above, this portion of London Shrader et al. discloses a LAN CID utility procedure that keeps track of the current state of the installation. There is no description of receiving from the application a call to finalize the application installation operation anywhere in the cited portion. London Shrader et al. simply does not disclose receiving from the application a call to finalize the application operation.

Because London Shrader et al. fails to teach or suggest each of the claimed features Applicants' undersigned representative respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejections and allow independent claims 1, 11, 27, 35, 43, and 52. Applicants' undersigned representative respectfully requests in order to progress prosecution of that application that if the rejections are maintained, the Examiner quote specific language from London Shrader et al. that allegedly teaches each of the claimed features.

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Claims 2 through 10, 12 through 26, 28 through 34, 36 through 42, and 44 through 51 are all variously dependant on independent claims 1, 11, 27, 35, and 43, and are therefore similarly patentable for at least the same reasons. It is therefore respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejections and allow the claims.

CONCLUSION

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicant's undersigned representative respectfully requests reconsideration of the outstanding office action and issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

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